

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original): A cap for a tube, said cap being connected to a distal end of the tube, comprising:

a passage for communicating with the tube and the outside;

a liquid absorption member disposed in the passage; and

a gas permeable and liquid impermeable filter for blocking the passage at a position farther than the liquid absorption member from the tube.

2. (original): The cap as claimed in claim 1, wherein the liquid absorption member surrounds the passage.

3. (original): The cap as claimed in claim 1, wherein the liquid absorption member is made of a sponge material.

4. (original): The cap as claimed in claim 1, wherein the liquid absorption member is made of a fiber material.

5. (original): The cap as claimed in claim 1, wherein the filter is made of a porous plastic resin material.

6. (currently amended): The cap as claimed in ~~claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, further comprising:

a main body which includes an outer wall and a connection projection provided radially inward of the outer wall, and in which the other end opposite to an end of the main body with the connection projection provided thereon is open, and the passage is formed and the liquid absorption member is received; and

a closure which is connected to close the other open end of the main body and includes an exhaust hole that communicates with the passage and is blocked by the filter.

7. (original): The cap as claimed in claim 6, wherein the connection projection comprises a tube extending inward and outward of the end of the outer wall, and the absorption member is fixedly fitted between the outer wall of the main body and an inward extension of the connection projection.

8. (original): The cap as claimed in claim 6, wherein the closure further comprises an extension for isolating the absorption member and the filter from each other.

9. (currently amended): A liquid medicine supplying apparatus for supplying a liquid medicine, comprising:

a liquid medicine reservoir;

a pressure device for applying pressure to the liquid medicine stored in the liquid medicine reservoir;

a tube connected to the liquid medicine reservoir; and
a cap according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1 connected to the distal end of the
tube.

10. (original): The apparatus as claimed in claim 9, further comprising a flow
control device including a member that is connected to the cap and is to be removed upon
supplying the liquid medicine.